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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TICKET SALES: 805/756-2787

The Millennia Consort Opens Forbes Pipe Organ Series Oct. 12

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – The MILLENNIA CONSORT will open the 2008/09 Forbes Pipe Organ Recital Series at the Performing Arts Center with a special 3 p.m. show Oct. 12.

The Millennia Consort – California's premiere "organ plus" ensemble – presents a unique concert experience with world-class musicians, showcasing the best of the new and the best of the known. Resonant brass accompanies the organ in an expansive program designed to highlight and complement the entire musicality of a Millennia concert.

Cal Poly Arts presents the afternoon program, featuring Modest Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition and new works by Bay Area composer/organist John Karl Hirten, including a set of four Irish tunes entitled Ceathair and a premiere performance of The Pinot Suite.

Made up of highly-accomplished musicians, the Presidio Brass has gained a strong following as an ensemble.

Trumpet player Ray Nowak is a founding member of the Presidio Brass and has performed with the Los Angeles and London Philharmonic Orchestras and the Pacific and San Diego Symphonies. Recently, he appeared on both "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," performing with Kanye West.

Trumpeter Bill Owens joined the Presidio Brass in September of 2006, after attending the Juilliard School in New York. He gave three solo recitals in both Paul and Morse recital halls in Lincoln Center, as well as solo performances in Alice Tully Hall.

Mike McCoy has been the horn player for the Presidio Brass since its inception. He has performed in the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, Opera Pacific, Pacific Symphony, and played lead horn in Carnegie Hall under John Rutter. He also played lead horn with the traveling Broadway shows, The Lion King and Tommy and is an active recording artist.

Trombonist Sean Reusch is also a founding member of the Presidio Brass. He has performed with the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, San Diego Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles Opera, Pacific Symphony, Pasadena Symphony, New West Symphony, Redlands Symphony, San Bernardino Symphony, and the Riverside Symphony.

Scott Sutherland is the tuba player and the primary music arranger for the Presidio Brass. As a soloist, he has been featured with the San Diego Symphony, Riverside County and Burbank Philharmonic Orchestras, and has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Diego Opera, and the New West and Long Beach Symphonies.

Alison Luedecke, organist and founder of the Millennia Consort, is active as a solo concert organist and has played in Canada, Mexico and Germany. She has been heard numerous times on the nationally-syndicated radio show, "Pipedreams." As an ensemble musician, she has performed with the Mainly Mozart Festival Orchestra, Symphony Silicon Valley, and other chamber ensembles and symphonies. She is also organist with the highly-

acclaimed Millennia Too!, an intimate recital duo with oboist Susan Barrett.

Beverly Reese Dorcy is an active freelance timpanist and percussionist in both the San Diego and San Francisco Bay areas, as well as performing with the Sun Valley Summer Symphony in Idaho. She has performed with the San Diego Symphony, San Diego Opera, San Diego Chamber Orchestra, California Symphony, and Marin Symphony.

A special pre-concert lecture will be presented by well-known radio personality Michael Barone, host of American Public Media's "Pipedreams" program (www.pipedreams.org). He will engage the performers in pre-concert conversation and demonstration of the Forbes Pipe Organ. The lec/dem will be held in the concert hall at 2 p.m.

The Cohan Center recital will be taped for future national broadcast on Barone's "Pipedreams" show.

General public tickets for the performance range from \$14 to \$26, with student discounts available on all seats, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

Order on-line at www.calpolyarts.org.

Sponsored by Bert and Candace Forbes and by Peggy Peterson in loving memory of Gerry Peterson. Additional support is provided by KCBX 90.1 FM.

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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